# Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 IO-13 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 L-03 H-01 /106 W

R 081825Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6269
INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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-----081905Z 075401 /42

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, IBRD, ADB, GW

SUBJ: FRG COOPMIN OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON U.S. DECISION TO MAKE ITS IFI PLEDGES CONDITIONAL ON CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

REF: BONN 402

1. FOLLOWING UP ON REFTEL, ECON/COMM MINISTER SENT A
LETTER TO STATE SECRETARY KOLLATZ OF ECONCOOPMIN BASED
ON UNCLASSIFIED CURRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS ARTICLE
(ISSUE NO. 6, FEB 9) DESCRIBING U.S. BUDGETARY PLANS
FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS. IN REPLY E/C MINISTER RECENTLY RECEIVED
A LETTER FROM KOLLATZ PRAISING THE STRONG U.S. SUPPORT
OF THE IFI'S, BUT EXPRESSING "SERIOUS CONCERN"
REGARDING THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S ANNOUNCED INTENTION
TO MAKE REPLENISHMENT COMMITMENTS SUBJECT TO ANNUAL
APPROPRIATIONS BY CONGRESS. THE TEXT OF KOLLATZ'S
LETTER FOLLOWS:
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BEGIN TEXT: WITH GREAT INTEREST I TOOK NOTE OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN YOUR LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 11, 1977, FOR WHICH I SHOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU. THIS WAS A HELPFUL CONFIRMATION OF WHAT TRANSPIRED ALREADY FROM VARIOUS PRESS ARTICLES I HAVE SEEN DURING THE PAST FEW DAYS.

I FIND IT ENCOURAGING TO SEE THE NEW ADMINISTRATION STEER A COURSE WHICH OBVIOUSLY LEADS TO STRONGER SUPPORT OF THE MULTILATERAL FINANCE INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING BOTH THE WORLD BANK GROUP AND THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS. THESE INSTITUTIONS HAVE PLAYED A VERY USEFUL ROLE IN HELPING PROVIDE THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WITH PART OF THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES WHICH THEY NEED SO BADLY. ALSO MY GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO CONTRIBUTE A FAIR SHARE TO THE CONSOLIDATION AND FURTHER EXPANSION OF THESE INSTITUTIONS.

IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT MY GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO MADE THE NECESSARY PROVISIONS IN THE DRAFT BUDGET FOR 1977 FOR OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE SELECTIVE CAPITAL INCREASE OF THE WORLD BANK, THE GENERAL CAPITAL INCREASE IN THE IFC AND THE GENERAL CAPITAL INCREASE IN THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. OUR POSITION TOWARDS A REPLENISHMENT OF IDA WAS ANNOUNCED BY MY MINISTER, FRAU SCHLEI, ON THE OCCASION OF HER VISIT TO WASHINGTON, IN THE COURSE OF WHICH SHE MET MR. MCNAMARA, AS YOU KNOW. THIS ANNOUNCEMENT, HOWEVER, WAS NOT AN UNCONDITIONED PLEDGE BUT WAS MADE SUBJECT TO A SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT ON IDA V AMONG ALL TRADITIONAL DONORS WHICH IS STILL LACKING. WE IN PARTICULAR EXPECT THE OTHER DONORS TO AGREE TO THE PRINCIPLE OF A FAIR BURDEN-SHARING. IN THE GIVEN SITUATION THIS MEANS THAT ALL DONORS MUST TAKE OVER THE PERCENTAGE SHARES DERIVED FROM THE IDA IV SCHEME. THIS APPLIES IN PARTICULAR TO THE MAJOR CONFIDENTIAL

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#### DONORS.

IN THIS CONTEXT I SHOULD LIKE TO TAKE UP A SUBJECT WHICH IS CLOSELY LINKED TO THE WHOLE RANGE OF PROBLEMS CONCERNING THE MULTILATERAL FINANCE INSTITUTIONS. IT WAS WITH SERIOUS CONCERN THAT I LEARNED ABOUT THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S INTENTION TO MAKE LONGER-TERM COMMITMENTS TO THESE INSTITUTIONS IN FUTURE ONLY SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS BY THE CONGRESS. THIS MAY PUT OTHER DONORS IN A VERY DIFFICULT POSITION. BY DOING SO THE USA IN FACT WOULD DEPART FROM A WELL ESTABLISHED PRINCIPLE OF THE PAST, I.E. TO MAKE REPLENISHMENT COMMITMENTS ON A THREE YEAR BASIS RATHER THAN TO DECIDE UPON CONTRIBUTIONS ON A YEAR-BY-YEAR BASIS.

WE FEEL VERY STRONGLY THAT A NEW PROCEDURE OF THIS KIND IF ENVISAGED BY YOUR ADMINISTRATION MIGHT JEOPARDIZE FUTURE REPLENISHMENT EFFORTS AND WILL IN

#### THE LONG RUN BE DETRIMENTAL TO ANY REPLENISHMENTS OF

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FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AT ALL. WITH SUCH A RESERVATION IT WILL NO LONGER BE POSSIBLE TO REACH AGREEMENT AMONG DONORS ON APPROPRIATE VOLUMES OF RESOURCES TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THOSE INSTITUTIONS, IF OTHER DONORS CANNOT BE SUFFICIENTLY SURE THAT A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR WILL REALLY BE MEETING HIS OBLIGATIONS. IN THAT CASE ALL EFFORTS TO ARRIVE AT A REASONABLE SCHEME FOR BURDEN-SHARING FOR A MULTI-YEAR PERIOD WOULD BE POINTLESS AND WE MAY WELL END UP WITH ANNUAL PLEDGES DEPRIVING THOSE INSTITUTIONS OF A MULTI-YEAR COMMITMENT AUTHORITY AND BY THE SAME TAKEN OF THE BASIS FOR SOUND LONG-TERM PLANNING.

THIS IS ALL THE MORE DEPLORABLE SINCE THE INSTITUTIONS AFFECTED ARE IN THE FIRST PLACE THOSE WHICH PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ON CONCESSIONAL TERMS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE POORER COUNTRIES. IN PARTICULAR IDA IS AFFECTED BY THESE DIFFICULTIES AND THE AGREEMENT CONFIDENTIAL

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ON IDA V IS SERIOUSLY ENDANGERED, IF YOUR GOVERNMENT IS REALLY GOING TO APPLY THIS AS A NEW PROCEDURE.

THEREFORE, WE SHALL STRONGLY APPEAL TO THE NEW ADMINISTRATION TO RECONSIDER ITS POSITION IN THE LIGHT OF THE RISKS INVOLVED AND TO FALL BACK AGAIN ON THE FORMER PRACTICE, I.E. TO SIGN AGREEMENTS ON THREE-YEAR REPLENISHMENTS WITHOUT ANY QUALIFYING ESCAPE CLAUSE SO AS TO MAINTAIN, LEGALLY SPEAKING, EQUAL FOOTING FOR ALL DONORS. END TEXT.

- 2. UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY ECON/COMM MIN INTENDS TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN REPLY TO KOLLATZ.
- -- CONGRESSIONAL RESISTANCE TO MULTI-YEAR APPROPRIATIONS IS NOT A NEW ISSUE.
- -- THE NEW ADMINISTRATION, IN SEEKING TO RESOLVE SOME MAJOR FOREIGN AID ISSUES WITH CONGRESS, HAS DECIDED TO ACCEPT CONGRESSIONAL VIEWS THAT US PLEDGES BE MADE SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATIONS.
- -- IN ANY EVENT, LITTLE PRACTICAL DIFFERENCE WILL RESULT FROM THIS CHANGE SINCE CONGRESS HAS ALWAYS INSISTED ON ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS.

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**APPROPRIATIONS** 

TAGS: EAID, GE, IBRD, ADB

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